their own revision at the end of twelve years. Great Britain, under the most-favored-nation clause of her supplementary treaty of 1843, claimed that the one of 1842 should come up for review in 1854 and enumerated to the Chinese added regulations for intercourse and fresh privileges to foreigners which she deemed desirable—among them access to more cities, the legalization of the opium trade, and the residence of Western envoys in Peking. These demands were supported by the United States and France. It may be noted, lest the alien seem entirely intent on his own gains, even at the price of debauching the Chinese, that some who favored provision for the importation of opium did so on the ground that, since the drug was coming into the country anyway, by smuggling, control could be exercised and a revenue derived for the Government if the traffic were recognized and regularized. In 1856 the American representative by independent action endeavored to gain a revision, then due, of the treaty of 1844. All these attempts for the moment ended in failure.

THE WAR OF 1856-1860

As is often the case in such strained situations, war broke out over a comparatively minor incident. In October, 1856, a craft, the lorcha *Arrow,* owned by Chinese, and with a Chinese crew, but registered at Hongkong, having a British captain, and flying the British flag, while at Canton was boarded by Chinese officers. Most of its crew were arrested—on the ground that they had been engaged in a recent act of piracy—and the British flag was hauled down. The British declared that British sovereignty had been violated and their flag insulted. The Chinese declined to give the

satisfaction demanded.

This particular clash, apparently so trivial, might have been settled peaceably had it not been that by disposition and conviction the British Consul, Harry Parkes, and the Viceroy in Canton, Yeh Ming-shen, were both uncompromising. By the end of the month the British naval forces commenced hostilities, capturing the forts commanding the approaches to Canton and bombarding the Viceroy's yamen. The Chinese retaliated by what in effect was a declaration of war. The British ministry sustained the action of the British authorities in China, was defeated on the Issue in the House of Commons, but, dissolving Parliament, ap-